

DARTON  
(YORKS.)  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORTS  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH  
AND THE  
SANITARY INSPECTOR  
FOR THE  
YEAR 1949



**DARTON (Yorks) URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1949**

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**Chairman :**

January to May, 1949—Councillor Harold C. Dormand, J.P.  
(Vice Chairman of the Council).

May to December, 1949—Councillor George A. Priestley  
(Vice Chairman of the Council).

**MEMBERS :**

**January to May, 1949  
Councillors**

H. Ibberson  
(Chairman of the Council).  
A. Cooper.  
O. Frost.  
A. Hinchliffe.  
Mrs. I. Johnson.  
C. Mason.  
E. S. Owen, B.A.  
G. A. Priestley.  
J. Roebuck, B.E.M.  
C. Skelton.  
F. Wilkinson.

**May to December, 1949  
Councillors**

H. C. Dormand, J.P.  
(Chairman of the Council).  
D. S. Hepworth.  
A. Hinchliffe.  
Mrs. I. Johnson.  
C. Mason.  
J. McBride.  
F. Morris, J.P.  
J. Roebuck, B.E.M.  
C. Skelton.  
F. Steeple.

**August to December, 1949 :**  
Councillor J. Talbot.

**Clerk to the Council :**  
Robert Smith

**Medical Officer of Health :**


A. Reeves, M.A., M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O. (Dub.),  
D.P.H. (Vict. Manch.).  
Divisional Medical Officer.

**Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :**

Irvine Fieldhouse, Cert S.I.B., A.R. San. I., M.S.I.A.  
Certified Meat and Foods Inspector.

**Clerk :**

Miss Mary Thorpe — Shorthand Typist.



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**Darton Urban District Council.**

**REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1949.**

To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the DARTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL:

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health Services of Darton Urban District for the year 1949.

Generally speaking the health of the Area has been satisfactory during the year.

The death rate was 11.0 per 1,000 estimated population. In 1948 the rate was 10.6. The birth rate was 19.6 per 1,000 population and shows a fall compared with 1948 when the rate was 21.9. A pleasing feature of the report is the fall in Infant Mortality. The rate for the year was 32 per 1,000 registered Live Births (the same rate as that for England and Wales). In 1948 the rate was 39 and in 1947, 58 per 1,000 registered Live Births.

The position regarding notifiable disease is in some respects better than in 1948. There were no cases of Diphtheria notified in 1949 while two cases were notified in 1948. There was only 1 case of Poliomyelitis in 1949 compared with 3 cases in 1948. The number of cases of Tuberculosis notified was 14 in 1949 compared with 18 in 1948. The number of deaths from Tuberculosis was 5 in 1949 compared with 8 in 1948.

Another pleasing feature of the Report is that there was only 1 death from Gastro-enteritis compared with 3 deaths of Infants from this condition in 1948.

**WATER.**

The Council's Water Supply is obtained from boreholes owned by Penistone Urban District Council and from the Barnsley Corporation Reservoirs. Both these supplies are chlorinated at the source and delivered to us by piped supply at Kirkwood, Penistone, Higham Common and Staincross Station.

During the year we had a very much reduced supply from Penistone owing to the very low level of water in the boreholes, caused by the long spell of very dry weather. With the help of Barnsley Corporation, who gave us an increased supply of water, we were able to keep a very good service throughout the district.

A little inconvenience was caused on the high points of the district when our Service Reservoirs were damaged by Colliery subsidence, but this was only for a short period.

The quality of water supplied to our consumers is very good, but we would like to be able to give a good supply of water to all our consumers at all times.

All samples from main supplies were of a very good Bacteriological nature.

**Chemical Analysis.**

The analyst's report is as follows:—

	parts per 100,000
Total solids ... ..	28
Nitrates and Nitrites ... ..	Nil
Chloride ... ..	1.6
Free Ammonia ... ..	.002
Albuminoid Ammonia ... ..	.005
Poisonous Metals ... ..	Nil
Total Hardness ... ..	13.6
P.H. ... ..	7.4

This water is of satisfactory organic quality.

During the year 2 samples were taken of Spring water, both of which were of unsatisfactory bacteriological quality. The public were notified of the danger of drinking this water and notices were posted on both these supplies.

**(1) DEATHS**

The following Table shows the causes of Death and is amended for inward and outward transfers:—

	M.	F.	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ... ..	0	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0	0	0
Whooping Cough ... ..	0	1	1
Diphtheria ... ..	0	0	0
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	2	3	5
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	0	0	0
Syphilitic Diseases ... ..	0	0	0
Influenza ... ..	0	0	0
Measles ... ..	0	0	0
Acute Polio-Myel. and Polio-Enceph. ... ..	0	0	0
Acute Inf. Enceph. ... ..	0	0	0
Cancer of Buc. Cav. and Oesoph (M.), Uterus (F.) ...	1	3	4
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	6	1	7
Cancer of Breast ... ..	0	1	1
Cancer of all other sites ... ..	8	6	14
Diabetes ... ..	0	1	1
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ... ..	6	9	15
Heart Diseases ... ..	26	28	54
Other Diseases of Circ. System ... ..	1	2	3
Bronchitis ... ..	8	3	11
Pneumonia ... ..	3	1	4
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	0	3	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ... ..	0	0	0
Diarrhoea under 2 years ... ..	0	1	1
Appendicitis ... ..	1	0	1
Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	1	1	2
Nephritis ... ..	5	0	5
Puerperal and Post-Abort. Sepsis ... ..	0	0	0
Other maternal causes ... ..	0	0	0
Premature Birth ... ..	4	0	4
Con. Mal. Birth Inj. Infant Diseases ... ..	1	0	1
Suicide ... ..	1	0	1
Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	4	0	4
Other Violent Causes ... ..	2	2	4
All other causes ... ..	7	4	11
Totals ... ..	87	70	157

## Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	4,726
Population in 1931	...	...	...	...	12,698
Population estimated in 1949	...	...	...	...	14,300
Inhabited Houses (approx.)	...	...	...	...	4,100
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£45,889
Net Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	£174,18.0

### (2) BIRTHS.

During the year 1949, 137 Male Births and 143 Female Births, making a total of 280 Births, were registered. Of this total, 6 Male and 4 Female births were illegitimate.

### (3) STILL BIRTHS.

There were 6 Male and 7 Female Still Births out of a total of 293 Live and Still Births. All the Still Births were legitimate.

### (4) INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births).

During 1949 a total of 9 deaths of infants under 1 year occurred consisting of 7 male and 2 female children. The Infant Mortality Rate was 32 per 1,000 live births. In 1948 12 deaths in children under 1 year occurred with a rate of 39 per 1,000 registered births. The rate in 1947 was 58 per 1,000 births.

## GASTRO-ENTERITIS.

The position regarding Gastro-enteritis has improved. There was one infant death from the condition in 1949. In 1948 there were 3 deaths.

## CAUSES OF DEATH:

Pneumococcal meningitis	...	...	...	...	1
Enteritis, Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	1
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	4
Gastro Enteritis	...	...	...	...	1
Convulsions, Lobar pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1
Intra-cranial haemorrhage Birth Injuries	...	...	...	...	1

## PREMATURE BIRTHS (Baby weighing 5½ lbs. or less at birth).

There were 20 Premature Births notified during the year. Of this total 1 died. 5 (Five) premature babies were born at home and 15 in the Maternity Wing of St. Helen's Hospital. In 1948 there were 5 deaths due to Prematurity.



Birth weight of babies who died due to prematurity and period of survival:—

Number of children	Birth weight		Period of survival
	lb.	ozs.	
1	2	15	2 hours
1	2	3	3 hours
1	3	2	3 days
1	2	—	19 hours

Place of birth of babies who died due to prematurity:—

Born at home and died at home: 1	Born in St. Helen's and died in St. Helen's: 3
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**(5) MATERNAL MORTALITY.**

There were no maternal deaths during the year. In 1948 there was one maternal death.



Principal Vital Statistics for the Year 1949. Based on Registrar General's figures.

	Darton Urban District	Aggre- gate West Riding Urban Districts	West Riding Adminis. County	England and Wales
BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population)	19.6	16.8	17.2	16.7
DEATH RATES (All causes) (per 1,000 estimated population)	11.0	12.5	12.1	11.7
*Zymotic Diseases (seven principals) .. ..	.14	.08	.08	* *
Tuberculosis of the Respira- tory System .. ..	.35	.32	.32	.40
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	.05	.05	.05
†Respiratory Diseases (ex- cluding Tuberculosis of Respiratory System) ..	1.26	1.48	1.44	* *
Cancer .. ..	1.82	1.88	1.81	1.87
‡Heart and Circulatory Diseases .. ..	3.99	4.36	4.19	* *
INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths under 1 year per 1000 Live Births) .. ..	32	37	38	32
DIARRHOEA (Deaths in Infants under 2 years of age per 1000 Live Births) .. ..	3.57	3.01	3.27	3.0
MATERNAL MORTALITY (Deaths of Mothers in Child- birth per 1000 Live and Still Births)				
Puerperal Sepsis ..		0.15	0.15	0.22
Other Causes .. ..		0.60	0.68	0.76
TOTALS .. ..	—	0.75	0.83	0.98

\* Combined Death Rate from Small Pox (if any), Scarlet Fever, Enteric Fever, Diphtheria, Measles, Whooping Cough, also Diarrhoea in Infants under 2 years of age.

† Combined Death Rate from Bronchitis, Pneumonia and other Respiratory Diseases, excluding Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System.

‡ Combined Death Rate from Heart Diseases and other Diseases of the Circulatory System.

\* \* Figures not available.

## **PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

**Notifiable Diseases** other than Tuberculosis during 1949.

### **Scarlet Fever.**

There were 50 cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year and 36 of these were treated in hospital. 30 cases were notified in 1948.

### **Diphtheria.**

There were no cases during 1949. In 1948, 2 cases were notified.

### **Cerebro-Spinal Fever.**

2 cases were notified compared with 3 cases in 1948. Both cases were treated in hospital.

### **Measles.**

259 cases of Measles were notified, three of which were admitted to hospital. There were 218 cases in 1948.

### **Puerperal Pyrexia.**

There were no cases of puerperal pyrexia, compared with 1 case in 1948.

### **Poliomyelitis.**

Three cases were notified and admitted to hospital where the diagnosis was confirmed in only one case. This compares with 3 actual cases in 1948.

### **Erysipelas.**

One case was notified in 1949 against 4 cases in 1948.

### **Whooping Cough.**

During the year 55 cases of whooping cough were notified and 3 were admitted to hospital where one died. In 1948, 60 cases were notified and there were no deaths.

### **Dysentery.**

Four cases of dysentery were notified, comparing with no cases in 1948.

### **Pneumonia.**

10 cases of pneumonia were notified, but the diagnosis was confirmed in only 5 cases. 6 cases were admitted to hospital. This compares with 25 cases in 1948.

## EPIDEMIOLOGY.

Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis.	Number Notified	Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths
Scarlet Fever ... ..	50	36	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	259	3	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	55	3	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	2	2	—
Dysentery ... ..	4	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	10	6	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ... ..	3*	3	—
Polio-encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—

\*3 Cases were notified as Poliomyelitis. In one case the diagnosis was confirmed Polio-encephalitis and 1 case was confirmed Rheumatic Fever.

The following Table gives the age distribution of INFECTIOUS DISEASES notified during the year :

Notifiable Diseases	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and over.	Not known
Scarlet Fever ..	—	16	29	2	2	—	—	1
Whooping Cough ..	6	36	13	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	15	166	73	—	—	—	—	5
Pneumonia ..	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-encephalitis ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

(Final numbers after correction).

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Staff:—Miss Cartledge—Tuberculosis Visitor.

1. No. of cases on the Register at 1st January 1949:—

Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
Male	Female	Male	Female	
23	16	13	5	57

2. No. of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1949:—

Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
Male	Female	Male	Female	
26	21	13	5	65

3. No. of new notifications received during the year:—

Total				(17 in 1948)
Pulmonary ... ..	...	13		
Non-Pulmonary ... ..	...	1	14	

4. No. of cases removed from the Register in 1949 6
5. No. of cases admitted to Sanatoria during 1949 12
6. No. of deaths from Tuberculosis in 1949:—

		Total	
Pulmonary ...	5		(8 in
Non-Pulmonary ...	—	5	1948)

7. Distribution of notifications (Age, sex and occupation).

Age	Sex	Occupation
7	F	Scholar
22	F	Housewife
20	F	Assistant Cook
31	M	Ex-soldier
24	F	Factory Worker
48	M	Miner
20	F	Spinner
24	F	Housewife
20	M	Miner
3	F	Infant
27	M	Foundry Worker
18	M	Not known
63	F	Housewife
39	F	Housewife

### SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Staff: Health Visitors and School Nurses:

Miss Thorpe, Miss Mindham and Miss Warren.

#### School Medical Inspections.

School Medical Inspections were carried out in the following schools by Dr. S. G. A. Henriques.

Darton Mapplewell Infants' School.

Darton Kexborough J.M. and I. School.

Darton Gawber C.E. Infants' School.

#### School Clinics.

School Clinics	No. of individual attendances during 1949	Total attendances
Wesleyan Sunday School, Each Thursday Barnsley Rd., Staincross. 10.30 a.m. to Dr. A. Reeves. 12 noon. Miss H. Thorpe.	34	91
Church Hall, Higham Each Wednesday Common Rd., Higham. 10 a.m. to Dr. A. Reeves. 12 noon. Miss A. Mindham.	94	192
Infants' School, Each Monday Station Rd., Darton. 2 to 4 p.m. Dr. S. G. A. Henriques. Miss H. Thorpe.	65	145

School Medical Inspections.      Number of defects found:—

School visited.		No. seen.	Ocular	ENT	Heart	Lungs	Orthop- paedic	Others	No. passes on for treatment
Mapplewell Infants	..	156	10	8	3	5	2	26	13
Kexboro, J.M. & L.	..	130	8	10	4	8	2	8	12
Gawber C.E. Infants	..	22	1	3	1	1		1	2
Totals	..	308	19	21	8	14	4	35	27

Return of Meals and Milk supplied on a typical day in 1949.  
 Figures supplied by the Divisional Education Officer.

School.	Nos. on roll.	Nos. present.	Nos. taking dinners.			Nos. taking Milk.	
			Free	Pay	Total	$\frac{1}{3}$ pint	$\frac{2}{3}$ pint
Darton Hall Sec. Modern Boys .. .. .	372	325	47	198	245	240	—
Darton Hall Sec. Modern Girls .. .. .	357	308	56	213	269	288	12
Darton Council .. .. .	299	276	13	146	159	216	—
Darton Barugh Council .. .. .	300	285	54	147	201	282	—
Darton Gawber Council .. .. .	58	52	6	21	27	48	—
Darton Kexborough Council .. .. .	337	320	28	129	157	312	—
Darton Mapplewell J.M. Council .. .. .	266	242	22	163	185	240	—
Darton Mapplewell Infants Council .. .. .	221	191	6	128	134	190	1
Darton Gawber C.E. Infants .. .. .	39	36	8	12	20	36	—
Totals .. .. .	2249	2035	240	1157	1397	1852	13

## SPECIALIST CLINICS.

### Oculist Clinics:

Number of children examined	...	...	62
Number for whom glasses were prescribed	...	...	33

### Orthopaedic Clinics:

Number of individual children examined	...	...	15
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### Paediatric Clinics:

Number of individual children examined	...	...	15
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### Child Guidance Clinics:

Number of individual children examined	...	...	3
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### Chest Clinics:

Number of individual children examined	...	...	16
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### Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics:

Number of individual children examined	...	...	26
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# DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of children who had completed a full course of  
Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1949.

Age at 31.12.49. i.e., Born in year.	Under 1 1949	1 1948	2 1947	3 1946	4 1945	5-9 1940-44	10-14 1935-39	Total under 15
No. immunised	11	129	193	137	159	1256	930	2815
Estimated mid year child population 1949 as supplied by Registrar General	Children under 5 1476				Children 5-14 2350		Total 3826	

## MATERNITY AND INFANT WELFARE SERVICES.

Staff: Domiciliary Midwives—

Nurses Andrews, Wroe, Newton and Fitzpatrick.

Ante-Natal and Infant Welfare Clinics were held regularly in the area during the year.

Infant Welfare Clinics—Attendances during 1949.

		Children under 1 year	Children 1-5 years
Darton ...	...	1,827	1,350
Higham ...	...	1,727	1,004
Staincross ...	...	1,838	1,298

Ante-Natal Clinic—Attendances during 1949—

Darton ...	...	236
Higham ...	...	83
Staincross ...	...	127

Total number of Domiciliary confinements undertaken by Midwives during the year—135.

## HOME NURSING.

Staff: Mapplewell, Staincross—Miss Charlesworth.

Darton, Kexborough and Higham—Miss Raw.

Number of visits made to patients during 1949 was ... 4,838

Number of new cases undertaken in 1949 for the area was 185

## LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Area is served by the Public Health Laboratory, County Medical Offices, Wood Street, Wakefield.

### Ambulance facilities:

The Ambulance Service is provided by the West Riding County Council.

### Hospitals—Isolation:

All patients are admitted to the Kendray Isolation Hospital.

### Other Hospitals:

The Beckett Hospital, Barnsley. The Jessop Hospital, The Royal Hospital and Royal Infirmary, Sheffield, and the County General, Wakefield, supply the needs of the area.

## HOME HELP SERVICE.

The number of cases attended by Home Helps during the year was as follows:—

a. Illness ...	...	...	...	5
b. Expectant Mothers ...	...	...	...	2
c. Lying-in period ...	...	...	...	9
d. Mental Defects ...	...	...	...	Nil
e. Aged ...	...	...	...	4
f. Child not over compulsory school age	Nil			

## CONCLUSION.

This will be my last report to you as Medical Officer of Health. As you know, I was the first whole-time Medical Officer of Health appointed for the area, and have combined my duties with those of Divisional Medical Officer, West Riding County Council. During the past three years, a scheme of divisional administration for the Preventive Medical Services has been introduced in the area. Generally speaking, I think the scheme has worked well.

Its success has been due in large measure to the close co-operation which has been given to me by the County Medical Officer's Department, to the courtesy, kindness and consideration which I have at all times received from the Local Councillors and Officials, and, finally, to the loyalty and support which I have received from my staff.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. REEVES,

Medical Officer of Health.

# DARTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE YEAR 1949

Sanitary Department,  
Council Offices,  
**DARTON.**

To the Chairman and Members of the Darton Urban District  
Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my third Annual Report on the work done by my Department during 1949 in its duty of maintaining and improving the environmental hygiene within the Area.

**TABLE 1.**

### Number of Inspections, Visits, etc., of all kinds.

Re Nuisances and Complaints	...	...	...	...	306
Re Infections Diseases	...	...	...	...	70
Cowsheds and Dairies	...	...	...	...	52
Food Shops	...	...	...	...	29
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	31
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	19
Factories	...	...	...	...	23
Ice-cream Premises	...	...	...	...	27
Re Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	34
Re Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	...	24
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	4
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	46
Movable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	20
Re Cleansing and Salvage	...	...	...	...	321
Interviews and Appointments	...	...	...	...	241
Attendances at Committees, Meetings, etc.	...	...	...	...	35
Filthy Houses	...	...	...	...	11
Verminous Houses	...	...	...	...	21
Re Slaughter of Pigs (Self Suppliers)	...	...	...	...	206
Pig Keepers' Premises	...	...	...	...	25
Visits with Housing Agent	...	...	...	...	889
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	...	...	...	...	5
Re Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	39
Re Works Ordered	...	...	...	...	367

Re Works in Progress	...	...	...	...	87
Re Privy Conversions	...	...	...	...	272
Cinemas	...	...	...	...	2
Re Agricultural Line Scheme	...	...	...	...	4
Re Water Sampling	...	...	...	...	9
Re Ice-cream Sampling	...	...	...	...	10
Re Milk Sampling	...	...	...	...	22
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	...	102
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>3,343</b>

**TABLE 2.**  
**Summary of Repairs and Work done.**

### **HOUSING**

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	31
Chimney stacks repaired or re-built	...	...	...	...	5
Eavesgutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	15
Fallpipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	5
External walls repaired or repointed	...	...	...	...	2
Window sills repaired or made safe	...	...	...	...	5
Dampness in walls remedied	...	...	...	...	3
Yard surfaces repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Wall plaster renewed	...	...	...	...	40
Ceiling plaster renewed	...	...	...	...	16
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	13
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	9
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	8
Staircases repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	2
Cooking ranges and firegrates repaired	...	...	...	...	17
Sinks renewed	...	...	...	...	9
Washing Coppers repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Dustbins renewed or provided	...	...	...	...	329
Watercloset cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	4
Water closet structures repaired	...	...	...	...	17
Drains cleansed, repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	34
Gullies renewed	...	...	...	...	5
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	12
Drains tested	...	...	...	...	94
Miscellaneous drainage items attended to	...	...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	12
Miscellaneous Housing items attended to	...	...	...	...	13
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	42
Houses disinfested	...	...	...	...	11
Privies converted to Waterclosets	...	...	...	...	52

## **PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING.**

### **Nuisances and Complaints.**

306 primary visits were made investigating complaints of nuisances. 500 nuisances were found affecting 372 premises. 111 visits were subsequently made relative to these in following up the serving of notices. 246 Informal and 9 Statutory notices were served. 246 and 11 respectively of these and last year's outstanding notices were abated. Unabated notices outstanding at the end of the year will be carried forward into 1950 for following up and abatement.

### **Infectious Disease—Prevention of Epidemics.**

It is my duty to visit the homes of patients notified to be suffering from Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Cerebro Spinal Meningitis, Poliomyelitis, Typhoid Fever or Dysentery. Particulars are obtained and notified to the Medical Officer of Health and where necessary the patient's bedroom and contents are disinfected with patent formalin fumigators. 70 visits were made in this respect and 42 houses disinfected. One school at Barugh Green was disinfected to cope with a minor epidemic of Scarlet Fever.

### **Factories.**

23 inspections were made of the factories in the Area and in two instances only were contraventions of the Factories Acts found. Twenty-four defects outstanding from 1948 were remedied. No complaints were received of contraventions found by His Majesty's Factory Inspector.

### **Rodent Control.**

There has been an increase in the number of complaints of rats in the district. Thirty-four visits were made in this respect. The Department continues to issue poison biscuits and scientific poison baiting as recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is carried out where it is safe to do so.

The Ministry's Divisional Rodent Officer has repeatedly urged the engagement of a part-time rodent operative for the district to carry out treatment in the Council's sewers, refuse tips, properties, etc., and this step would seem unavoidable early in 1950 when the new Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, comes into force.

### **Movable Dwellings.**

Four licences were issued to caravan dwellers during the year, three of whom were open-cast coal workers who find it more convenient to bring their homes in the form of caravan trailers with them rather than seek the brick built permanent type every two or three years as the open-cast sites are worked out.



### **Filthy and Verminous Dwellings.**

32 visits were made to 18 houses classified as filthy and 11 of these were verminous. In spite of such a summer of 1949, being warm and favourable for the multiplication of bed bugs, fleas, etc., it is pleasing to note that a less number of houses were found to be infested than the year before. The Department satisfactorily carried out disinfestation by liquid and powder D.D.T. at 11 houses. Supplies of D.D.T. continue to be issued to house-holders free of charge for the eradication of beetles, cockroaches, etc.

### **Smoke Abatement.**

Considerable trouble has been experienced during the year from the burning spoilbank at North Gawber Colliery. Mr. G. Tiplady, Inspector, Alkali, etc., Works, Ministry of Health, was called in to advise the owners on the matter. Some progress can be recorded and conditions will certainly improve when the new Screening and Washing plant now in course of erection is in operation.

24 visits were made altogether on smoke abatement and these include five recordings of observations of factory chimneys.

Towards the end of the year the Council agreed to instal the approved equipment for recording atmospheric pollution as suggested by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and records in this respect will commence to be taken early in 1950.

### **Pig Keepers' Premises.**

The keeping of cottager pigs in Darton is very popular. Owners are constantly seeking advice on the siting of pigsties and stress is laid on the maintenance of cleanliness, freedom from nuisance and efficient drainage of such premises. 25 visits were made during the year.

### **Choice of Tenants for New Council Houses.**

In an attempt to seek the best tenants for their new Council houses the Council desire that a proposed tenant should qualify to be capable of keeping his new house clean. Accordingly it has been my duty to accompany the Housing Agent on 889 visits to houses during the year to classify each house in terms of cleanliness prior to tenants being finally allocated a Council house. The effects of this system have been tremendous. It has meant in many cases a family transforming from a "Not clean" category to one of "Very clean" in order to qualify for allocation. Close liaison with the Housing Agent and myself has also resulted in a maintenance of this improvement after the family has been re-housed.

### **Back-to-Back Houses.**

During the year the Council pledged full support to me in my attempts to make "through" any Back-to-Back houses which



became vacant and in the following three instances our efforts were successful:—

- 9 and 10, Hope Street, Mapplewell.
- 7 and 17, Edward Street, Mapplewell.
- 52 and 58, Wentworth Road, Mapplewell.

A fourth attempt to make 68 and 80, Intake Lane, Gawber, into one "through" house failed through lack of co-operation from a tenant.

### **Closure of Insanitary or Dangerous houses.**

Without resorting to legal action the following houses falling under this category were closed as unfit for human habitation.—

- 366 and 368, New Road, Staincross.
- 606, Huddersfield Road, Haigh.
- 42, New Road, Staincross (now demolished).
- 64, Greenside, Staincross.

### **Damage to Houses by Colliery Subsidence.**

Being in a colliery district undermined by coal workings, Darton property has suffered badly during the year by subsidence. Whole streets of houses have been damaged and it is known that hundreds of houses in the Mapplewell and Staincross locality have suffered some kind of damage from this cause. The Housing Department of the National Coal Board has been so energetic and fair in its repair work that I have had very little cause to intervene. Tenants generally have been extremely patient and knowing that repairs to their houses will most certainly be dealt with in fair turn, they refrain from complaining to the Sanitary Inspector. There have been instances of course where I have been called in but the close liaison between the National Coal Board Housing Manager and myself has ultimately resulted in a completely satisfactory solution being reached.

## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES**

### **Closet Accommodation.**

The following shows the number of sanitary conveniences in the district at the end of 1949:—

- 240 Privies serving 364 premises.
- 6 pail closets serving 6 premises.
- 3,477 Waterclosets serving 4,113 premises.

It will be seen that over 93 per cent. of closets in the district are now on the watercarriage system.

165 Middens (Wet ashpits) receive the contents of the 240 privies, 20 middens were abolished when 52 privies were converted to waterclosets by the 31st December. The progressive record of privies converted since the War is as follows:—

1947 — 9.      1948 — 34      1949 — 52

It may seem to some, unusual for a Sanitary Inspector to consider the provision of pail closets and dustbins in favour of privy middens because there seems so little to choose between pails and privies from a sanitary point of view, but I personally feel like taking this step in certain instances, knowing that my Department can give a weekly service to empty the covered pail and the covered dustbin whereas at the moment the privy-middens can only be serviced monthly. Consequently in 1950 I shall be asking the Council to support me in negotiating with the owners of nine privy middens to abolish same in favour of pails and bins. I would never contemplate this step but for the fact that the area in which the houses are situate (Haigh) is not sewered and cannot be, the houses are very old and scattered, separate small disposal units are out of the question and cesspools would be too costly to build and too heavy a burden on the Council to service. For the very short remainder of life of these houses, therefore, I shall be proposing this system in order to give to the tenants some slight benefit by minimising the nuisances from flies and offensive smells which a weekly service will certainly give.

#### **Dry Ashpits.**

There are no dry ashpits in the area—all having been abolished in favour of the more sanitary dustbin.

#### **Dustbins.**

The contention that owners are not necessarily liable to renew dustbins for their tenanted properties is receiving backing from the magistrates where test cases have been fought and it does seem that the whole question will have to be decided at Ministerial level before very long. As yet in Darton no appeals have been lodged by owners who have been requested to renew dustbins. Owners are invited to purchase the new dustbins from the Department. We number and deliver the bins to the premises concerned far more quickly than if the full legal procedure was to follow its course.

#### **Cesspools.**

95 houses in the area are served by 67 cesspools. Each cesspool is cleansed monthly but scavenging costs would be much cheaper and it would be far more hygienic if the district could be partially, if not completely sewered.

### **INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.**

#### **Slaughter of Pigs (Self Suppliers).**

Number of visits to Slaughter premises ...	202
Number of pigs slaughtered ... ..	442
Number of carcasses (with offal) inspected	442

As a result of these inspections the following pork and offal was prevented from being consumed because of its diseased and unfit condition.—

TABLE 3.

No. of Pigs Affected.	Parts Affected	Disease or Condition.	Weight lb.
2	Heads, mesenteries, intestines plucks.	Tuberculosis	62
1	Head, mesentery, intestines.	Tuberculosis	20
1	Pluck, mesentery and intestines.	Tuberculosis	14
6	Heads, plucks.	Tuberculosis	139
3	Heads, lungs.	Tuberculosis	54
11	Heads	Tuberculosis	112
3	Plucks.	Tuberculosis	24
4	Lungs.	Tuberculosis	3½
3	Lungs.	Congested	3
1	Lungs.	Pneumonia	4½
1	Liver.	Cirrhosis	4
1	Liver	Parasitic	3
37 Pigs Affected.		TOTAL	443

TABLE 4.  
Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle ex- clud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs
No Killed .. .. .	—	—	—	—	442
No. Inspected .. .. .	—	—	—	—	442
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</b> Whole carcases condemned .. .. .	—	—	—	—	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. .. .	—	—	—	—	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. . .	—	—	—	—	1.36
<b>Tuberculosis only.</b> Whole carcase con- demned .. .. .	—	—	—	—	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. .. .	—	—	—	—	31
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B. .. .. .	—	—	—	—	7.01

## Other Food Inspections.

Details of foodstuffs voluntarily surrendered and destroyed as unfit for human consumption are given below:—

**TABLE 5.**

Spaghetti	...	...	...	...	...	43 lbs.
Ham	...	...	...	...	...	27 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	18½ lbs.
Canned Pork	...	...	...	...	...	3¾ lbs.
Canned Baked Beans	...	...	...	...	...	2 lbs.
Canned Evaporated Milk	...	...	...	...	...	1¾ lbs.
Canned Tomato Juice	...	...	...	...	...	1 lb.
Canned Vegetable Soup	...	...	...	...	...	1 lb.
Canned Crawfish	...	...	...	...	...	6¼ lb.
Canned Mussels	...	...	...	...	...	6¾ lb.
Canned Meat and Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	6¾ lb.
Canned Veal Loaf	...	...	...	...	...	9¾ lb.
Canned Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	...	2¼ lbs.
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	0½ lb.
Self Raising Flour	...	...	...	...	...	3 lbs.
Salad Cream	...	...	...	...	...	3½ lbs.
Sugar	...	...	...	...	...	3 lbs.
TOTAL						112¾ lbs.

## Government Central Slaughtering Scheme.

Rationed meat allocated to Darton continues to be supplied from Barnsley Abattoir to a centrally situated Allocation Centre in Darton. The premises are deteriorating and seem hardly large enough to cope with the amount of meat now coming in. The premises are visited frequently and the owner has been warned to pay particular attention to the desirability of strict cleanliness during the time when meat is stored or being allocated.

## Retail Meat Shops.

The standard of hygiene in the 18 retail meat shops continues to be very satisfactory. Although visits are made to these premises I regret that it has not yet been possible to organise a regular routine for visiting.

### **Food Preparing Premises.**

34 visits were made during the year to the six premises where sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved foods are manufactured. Two new premises were registered during the year. All must comply with the Council's adopted standards of hygiene in addition to the requirements as laid down in the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

### **Miscellaneous Food Premises.**

Visits and inspection have been maintained to:—

9 Bakehouses (19 visits).

19 Fried Fish Shops (46 visits).

1 Tripe Dresser (4 visits).

and Miscellaneous Food Shops (29 visits).

### **Cowsheds, Milk Production and Distribution.**

On the first of October the supervision of the production of milk on dairy farms ceased to be the duty of Sanitary Inspectors throughout the country and was transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. By then I had made 52 visits to the 29 cowsheds in the district. I personally regret that this duty has been lost to Sanitary Inspectors, my own feeling being that the cowsheds of Darton were being adequately supervised and that I enjoyed the co-operation of all our farmers in our efforts to secure hygienic methods of milk production. The supervision of the distribution of retail milk continues to be the duty of the Sanitary Inspector.

### **Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1936-46.**

Licences under the above Regulations were issued during the year as follows:—

Dealer's licence for Tuberculin Tested Milk ... ..	2
Dealer's licence for Pasteurised Milk ... ..	2
Supplementary licence for Tuberculin Tested Milk	3
Supplementary licence for Accredited Milk ... ..	1
Supplementary licence for Pasteurised Milk ... ..	2

### **Milk Sampling—Detection of Tuberculosis.**

At the beginning of the year I began a system of milk sampling whereby all milk which is produced or retailed in the Darton area was regularly sampled to discover the presence or otherwise of the tubercle Bacillus. Testing is carried out free by the Public Health Laboratory, Wakefield. The number of samples taken by the end of the year was 22, and only one was found to be Tuberculous. The offending milch cow was detected and then slaughtered.



## Ice-Cream.

One premise is registered for the manufacture of ice-cream and eleven premises are registered for the sale and storage of this increasingly popular commodity. The manufactory produces ice-cream by the "cold-mix" method.

A regular system of sampling has not yet been put into operation, but a start was made during the year and samples were taken as follows:—

For Chemical Analysis.					Fat per cent.
Sample No. 1	...	...	...	...	3.70
Sample No. 2	...	...	...	...	7.52

These results were forwarded to the Ministry of Food, who take appropriate action against manufacturers who produce ice-cream of less than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of Fat.

For Bacteriological Analysis.					Grade.
Sample No. 1	...	...	...	...	3
.. No. 2	...	...	...	...	4
.. No. 3	...	...	...	...	4
.. No. 4	...	...	...	...	1
.. No. 5	...	...	...	...	2

After the first three unsatisfactory samples Grades 1 and 2 were eventually reached after advice on the necessary efficient sterilisation and thorough cleanliness connected with production. Six samples of the ice-cream powder were also taken with the following results:—

Sample No. 1	...	300 organisms per grammic	
		No Bacillus Coli.	
Sample No. 2	...	1,000	.. ..
Sample No. 3	...	3,000	.. ..
Sample No. 4	...	2,000	.. ..
Sample No. 5	...	2,500	.. ..
Sample No. 6	...	125,000	.. ..

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

### Staff.

The department can provide work for 16 men and a foreman—two dustbin teams of five men each, a scavenging team of three men, a cesspool emptying team of two men and a tipman. The only light work in the department is that on cesspools. It is therefore essential that only physically fit men be employed and I have tried by degrees to build up a staff of such men. Two men over 70 years of age were retired at the end of the year, but there still remain two or three weaker members of the staff who, though very willing, are quite incapable of doing the heavier work such as loading dustbins.

## **Refuse Tips.**

The three main refuse tips are situate at Darton Main, Dayhouse and Blacker. One new tip at Gawber was created to fill in an old quarry which had been anybody's dumping ground for years.

Refuse collected in Kexborough and Darton is tipped at Darton Main tip.

Refuse collected in Staincross and Mapplewell is tipped at Blacker tip.

Refuse collected in Barugh, Barugh Green and Higham is tipped at Dayhouse tip.

Refuse collected in Gawber is tipped at Gawber tip.

A scattered district like ours warrants a refuse tip for each locality. The nearer the disposal point is to the collection area the more time is saved in transport and the less mileage and petrol consumption is recorded. The time saved in reduced hauls allows us to transport soil for the proper covering of each tip as work proceeds.

The Gawber and Darton Main tips have given no trouble during the year, but Dayhouse tip became overrun with rats and Blacker tip became infested with crickets. Both tips were suitably treated.

An old disused tipping site at Bloomhouse took fire during the drought of Summer — indeed this tip has always threatened to break out because years ago the site consisted of coal "day-holes" and it is now thought that the coal still remaining must be ignited deep down and quite impossible to quell. Precautions were taken to smother the site with soil and clay and to trench around the perimeter to prevent the fire's spread.

## **Frequency of Collections.**

Throughout the year the department has maintained a weekly collection of bins, a monthly cleansing of privy middens and a monthly emptying of cesspools. Difficulties have been encountered of course, due to breakdowns, holidays and sickness amongst the staff, but as these difficulties are overcome no effort is spared to get back to schedule.

Salvage collections were also undertaken until November.

## **Hours worked.**

From the 1st January to the 4th November the staff worked a 44 hour 5 day week and from then to the end of the year a 44 hour 5½ day week had to be put into operation.

The total number of hours worked during the year was 33,549.



Details of lost time are as follows:

Annual Holidays	...	...	...	...	2,141	hours.
Sickness	...	...	...	...	5,051	hours.
Absent with Permission	...	...	...	...	300½	hours.
Absent without Permission	...	...	...	...	598	hours.
Total hours lost					8,090½	hours.

I have frequently reported the large number of hours lost by sickness and absenteeism and I am pleased to record that by the end of the year, following your support of my strict action on two occasions, a marked improvement was shown.

Itemised hours allocations to the various services performed by the department are shown as follows:—

Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	20,203
Privy Middens	...	...	...	...	...	4,001
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	3,091
Tipwork	...	...	...	...	...	2,679
Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	2,287
Agricultural Lime Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	15
Vehicle Maintenance	...	...	...	...	...	382
Disinfections	...	...	...	...	...	2
Disinfestations	...	...	...	...	...	22
Work for other Departments	...	...	...	...	...	168
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	196
Depot Improvements	...	...	...	...	...	41
Trade Refuse	...	...	...	...	...	462
						33,549

### Cost details.

Itemised charges for services shown in Monthly Reports.

	£	s.	d.
Dustbins	2,767	6	1
Privy Middens	554	4	0
Cesspools	429	12	10
Tipwork (Disposal)	368	5	3
Salvage and Trade Refuse	380	17	9
Vehicle Maintenance	51	11	10
Depot Improvements	5	9	3
TOTAL	£4,557	7	0

## Items not chargeable to the Cleansing Service.

	£	s.	d.
Disinfestations ... ..	3	1	9
Disinfections ... ..		5	3
Agricultural Lime Scheme ... ..	1	15	2
Work for other Departments ... ..	23	19	4
Miscellaneous Work ... ..	26	15	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£55</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>

The all-in figures for the various services are itemised as follows:—

## COLLECTION COSTS.

### Dustbins.

181,500 emptied at ... ..	3.1d. per bin.
3,163 loads collected ... ..	17s. 6.0d. per load.

### Privy Middens.

1,965 cleansed at ... ..	5s. 7.6d. per receptacle.
920 loads collected at ... ..	12s. 0.5d. per load

### Cesspools.

592 cleansed at ... ..	14s. 4.2d. per receptacle.
1,935 loads removed at ... ..	1s. 4.7d. per load.

## DISPOSAL COSTS.

Total cost ... ..	£368 5s. 3d.
Therefore cost per load for disposal is ... ..	1s. 2.6d.

## Vehicles.

The Council owns two seven cu. yd. refuse vehicles, one six cu. yd. scavenging vehicle and one 500 gallon capacity cesspool emptying vehicle. A horse and cart with driver is placed at our disposal by the Highways Department one day each fortnight to cleanse those privy middens which are inaccessible to the motor vehicles.

The oldest refuse vehicle was due for replacement before the end of the year, but the new vehicle did not arrive. How the old lorry continued to function seemed a miracle. The next oldest refuse lorry has been on the road over eleven years now and, of course, showing very much the worse for wear. The expenditure on repairs throughout the year has been greater than normal mainly because of these two vehicles and to their faults can also

be attributed many delays in the work of the staff and the attendant worries to myself.

The total mileage done by all vehicles is 23,254 and the total consumption of petrol is 3,455 gallons.

## SALVAGE.

The collection of Salvage officially ended on the 3rd November. It was unavoidable that the Council had to make this decision. When the compulsory collections of salvage ceased the department still continued to collect, but month after month went by, baling costs mounted up, no sales were possible, storage space became limited and neither the Trade nor the Government could guarantee ever again a market for our type of waste paper. The last straw came when the so-called guaranteed price fell almost 50 per cent. and it very much appeared to me that someone had been taking advantage of the position to force prices down. A small district like ours obviously could not subsidise the waste paper trade out of the General Rates. The Council, therefore, rightly decided that no losses could be tolerated in the handling of salvage and gave instructions accordingly.

Salvage figures are as follows:—

**Period 1st January to 3rd November, 1949.**

Materials Salvaged.	Weight, etc.	Gross Income.
Mixed Baled Waste Paper	52 tons 10½ cwts.	£ s. d. 312 17 10
Jars	2,760	9 12 8
Cardboard Cartons	480	4 0 0
Bottles and Cullet	—	6 14 9
Rags, Twine, etc.	5 tons 2½ cwts.	69 15 6
	<b>TOTAL</b>	£403 0 9
Add increased Collection Bonus from Board of Trade		3 11 0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	£406 11 9

## CONCLUDING REMARKS.

The year 1949 has again been an exceptionally progressive one. I am of the opinion that I am one of the most fortunate Sanitary Inspectors in the country to have received such full co-operation and support from the Council in my continued attempts to improve the environmental hygiene of the district. This has encouraged me to show very satisfactory progress in the past, surmount many difficulties during the present and formulate a

definite policy for the future—all to the benefit of the people of the Darton district. Items of note in 1949 are the record number of privies and middens abolished; the introduction of the regular taking of milk samples both for presence of the dreaded Tubercle Bacillus and the efficiency of production methods; the start made on ice-cream sampling; the success in securing the co-operation of owners in making back-to-back houses "through" and the closure of several insanitary and dangerous houses.

I close my report with a word of thanks to the Medical Officer of Health for the trust and confidence he has shown in my work throughout the year and for the close co-operation in which we have together carried out our duties. The Clerk to the Council has also been particularly helpful and the happy relationship between other officials of the Council and myself has been maintained.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

IRVINE FIELDHOUSE,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.  
Cleansing Superintendent.





